THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) Yes, Sir. Groups A and B officers of Central Government have been permitted to avail LTC by Air in National Carrier between New Delhi and Srinagar for a period of two years from 16.06.2004.

(b) to (e) This information is not centrally available. No such proposal is under consideration.

Collection of Money by Levying Education Cess

4006. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount Government have so far collected by levying 2 per cent education cess since it was introduced, State-wise;

(b) whether the accumulated money is being used for the primary education or otherwise; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The total collection of education cess from Indirect Taxes during 2004-05 and 2005-06 (April—November) is as under:

Rs. In crores

	2004-05	2005-06 (April-Nov) (Prov.)
Customs	777.29	969.08
Excise	1550.53	1426.08
Service Tax	186.40	205.14
TOTAL	2514.22	2600.30

So far as direct taxes are concerned, an amount of Rs. 1804.51 crore was collected as education cess during 2004-05. The figures for 2005-06 are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House. State-wise figures for collection of education cess are not maintained.

(b) to (c) Prarambhik Shiksha Kosh (PSK), to which the proceeds of the education cess are credited has appeared as a separate line item

first time in the Budget for 2006-07 only. The estimated receipts in PSK for 2006-07 are Rs. 8746 crore, out of which Rs. 5831 crore are allocated to Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and Rs. 2915 crore to Mid Day Meal Scheme (MDM). Allocations to States are not being made separately against the Cess. Assistance to them is released under individual schemes related to Elementary Education in accordance with the guidelines of such schemes and against their respective budgetary allocations.

Guidelines for disbursement of Educational Loans

4007. SHRI R. SHUNMUGASUNDRAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state:

(a) whether there are guidelines issued by the Ministry for disbursement of educational loans for study in India and abroad; and

(b) what are the securities demanded by the banks for sanctioning educational loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) Indian Banks' Association has formulated guidelines for Education Loan in consultation with the Government.

(b) As per the Scheme, no security or margin is required for loan upto Rs. 4 lakh. For loans of above Rs. 4 lakh and upto Rs. 7.5 lakh, a suitable third party guarantee is required to be provided and for loans above Rs. 7.5 lakhs, collateral security of suitable value or co-obligation of parents/guardian/third party along with the assignment of future income of the student for payment of installments is required.

Educational Loans for Students

4008. SHRI R. SHUNMUGASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state:

(a) how much amount has totally been disbursed as educational loans for students who have opted to pursue courses of study abroad in the last academic year; and

(b) what are the courses of study for which loans were availed by students?